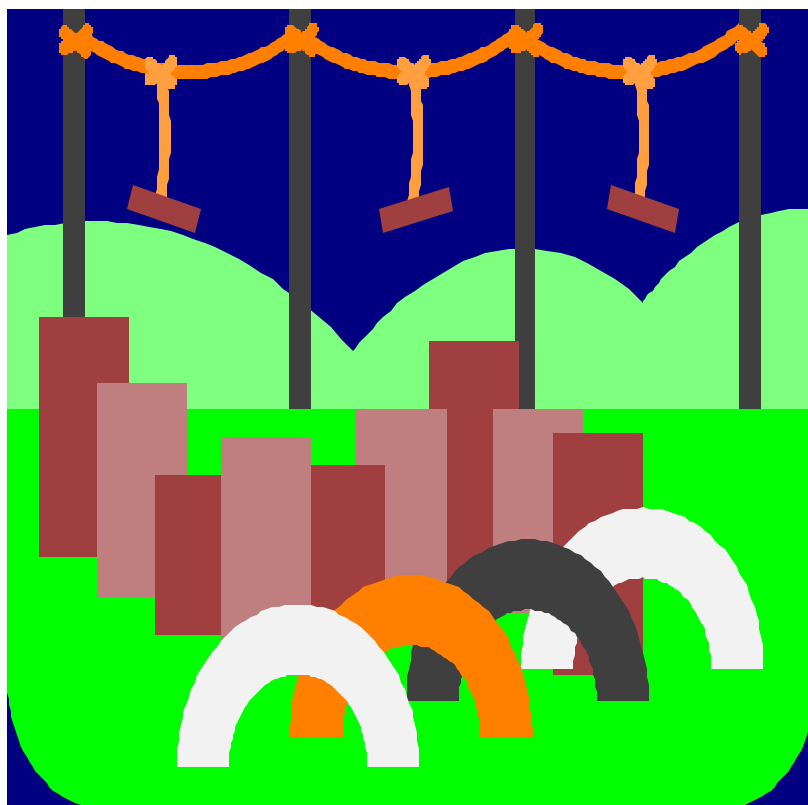


Appendices



TRENDS IMPACTING PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES

Environmental Trends

- Disappearing resources -- significant open spaces and natural habitats, original landscapes, wetlands and natural drainages, ancient forests, water and energy resources, remnant landscapes.
- Environmental cleanup -- contaminated soil and water, frequently on public lands previously considered “wasteland.”
- Reduction of pollution and waste -- recycling.
- Environmentally sensitive lifestyles -- low impact, non-consumptive use (walking, bicycling) and increased aesthetic appreciation.
- More environmentally sound practices and habits -- reduced and modified use of pesticides and herbicides.
- NIMBY and no growth attitudes - “not in my back yard” resistance to change, growth, development.
- Natural areas management - maintaining and reclaiming natural values and open spaces.
- The Greenhouse effect -- may disrupt some regional economies within 10 to 20 years.
- Reduction in number of vehicle trips -- states and communities set targets.
- Federal water quality mandates -- natural drainage systems become more important as urban waterways and wetlands are protected.
- State land use planning mandates -- in response to growth and need for growth management.
- Natural disasters -- floods, earthquakes, fires.

Social Trends

- Coping with property -- homelessness, destitution, malnutrition, unemployment, poverty as a lifestyle.
- Increased crime and violence -- domestic violence, gangs, violence in schools and other public places, drugs, vandalism, racial tension.
- Increased numbers of children at risk -- child abuse, neglect, teen pregnancies, suicides, family instability, loneliness, alienation, rebelliousness, substance abuse.
- Change-related stress – economic, social and technological changes continue in 21st Century, at rates creating stress.
- People empowerment -- opportunities for building community and social bonding, neighborhood watch, community policing.
- Citizen participation -- involvement of “stakeholders” in public planning and decision-making; planning with, not for people.

- Social service networking -- organizing community resources to attack complex social problems.
- Increasing concerns for personal and family safety.
- Major public health issue -- continuing AIDS epidemic, STDs, etc.
- Increasing importance of wellness activities.
- Increased inclusiveness -- laws and public policies addressing discrimination, equal rights, accessibility of public facilities and services.
- Desire to preserve and maintain cultural heritages.
- Volunteerism -- making more effective and efficient use of volunteers.

Economic Trends

- Reduced discretionary or leisure spending.
- Increasing public costs -- associated with health, social services, environmental protection and clean-up, aging infrastructure.
- Increasing labor and energy costs -- consuming higher percent of budgets.
- Tax limitation measures -- reduction in and/or caps on revenue traditionally used to support public programs (education, recreation, etc.).
- Increase in national poverty rate.
- Leisure services provided by multiple providers -- private and non-private sectors.
- Economic re-structuring of communities -- transition from single to diverse economics.
- Growing importance of eco-tourism and travel.
- Recognition of economic value of parks, open spaces, and amenity in infrastructure.
- Declining regional economies.

Demographic Trends

- Aging of society -- by 2030 baby boomers will be senior citizens (1/3 of the population).
- Proportion of middle-aged Americans -- sharp increase in the 1990s.
- Fewer “traditional” family households
- More emphasis on both eldercare and childcare.
- Declining divorce rate -- more emphasis on families and family values.
- Increasing cultural diversity.
- Growth of urban minority under class.
- Greater number of small households.
- Changing housing patterns – declining home ownership, more high density residential units, smaller houses on smaller lots, congregate retirement centers, homeless shelters shared living spaces.

Technological Trends

- Technological change -- rapid pace will continue.
- Easing of the effects of aging.
- Advances in information technology -- making products, services and information more accessible and targeted.
- Increase contact with computers – in some urban areas virtually every person will use computers in the home or workplace.
- Information technology will blur distinction between work and home.
- Increased media maladies – information overload, privacy, objectionable material, distorted reality.
- More public meetings aired on public/access cable television -- more education on issues and services.
- Greater energy costs shaping technology -- smaller cars and multi-model transportation systems, more efficient buildings.

Trends in Urban Patterns

- Increased urban sprawl -- located primarily along major transportation corridors and mass transit routes.
- Greater “in-fill” development -- lands considered marginal will be upgraded for new development, increasing density in the urban core.
- Revitalizing and retrofitting downtowns, industrial plants, and commercial centers – amenities included to make them more marketable – mixed use development.
- Increasing importance of amenities – recognized as essential for maintaining competitiveness.
- Historic preservation -- valuing heritage resources as treasures.
- Continued gentrification -- caused by increasing land values in central city areas.
- New ethnic centers – residents retain cultural traditions, values, and customs.
- Affordable housing -- community mandates and improved technology.
- Increased traffic congestion – placing more emphasis on mass transit and transportation options using existing open space.
- Municipal boundaries blurred by sprawl -- economic potential of regionalization recognized.
- More political pressure for urban growth management -- balancing sustainable future.
- Growth of partnerships – public and private partnering to address complex urban needs.
- Mobility of residents – residence by choice with diminished emotional/social attachment to service providers.

MAINTENANCE PLAN

The Parks and Recreation Maintenance Plan provides an “on-going” program to ensure all of our facilities, athletic fields, park areas, playgrounds, community centers, and open spaces are properly maintained to provide a safe and positive experience for everyone to enjoy.

There are two major elements of the Maintenance Plan. One is a five year plan for all parks and recreation facilities. Our goal is to upgrade and keep our facilities clean, safe, and properly maintained to meet the needs of our citizens, however, implementation of the maintenance plan will require a significant investment on the part of the City.

The second part includes yearly maintenance funding for all new facilities and related major projects acquired during our master plan. This will ensure all facilities will be kept clean and properly maintained on a daily basis. The following excerpt offers examples of maintenance standards:

MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

GENERAL GROUNDS

1. Litter collection
2. Vacuuming of pedestrian area
3. Repairs to accident/vandal damages
4. Edging
5. Incidentals (signs, lights, benches)
6. Public beach maintenance
7. Ornamental fountain and aerifier maintenance
8. Lake maintenance

PLANT CARE

1. Weed control
2. Irrigation
3. Fertilization (annuals, perennials, and seasonal plantings)
4. Fertilization (landscape planting)
5. Removal/replacement of plant materials
6. Annuals, perennials, and seasonal plantings
7. Disease/insect control
8. Mulching
9. Planting
10. Pruning

TREE CARE

1. Street tree care
2. Pruning of street trees
3. Stump removal
4. Street tree removal

TURF

1. Mowing
2. Fertilization
3. Weed control
4. Seeding
5. Soil amendments
6. Aeration
7. Irrigation
8. Disease/insect control
9. Turf renovation/establishment

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT/ PLAYGROUNDS

Components: playground equipment, border material, surface material, pathways, signs, and furniture.

IRRIGATION

1. Components: heads, piping, connector valves, controllers, wiring, back-flow, devices, meters, sensors, computers, and software.

BUILDINGS

1. Components: air condition, vents, exhaust fans, storage, carpeting/flooring, restrooms, water, roofing, support posts, fountains, stairs or walkways, rafters/joints, stain/paints, electrical (outlets, panels, boxes, wiring), lighting, signs windows/doors, and miscellaneous items generic to particular facility.

FENCING

1. Components: plastic, wood, split rail, chain link or other.

ATHLETIC FIELDS

1. Bleachers
2. Lights
3. Fencing
4. Infield
5. Outfield (turf)
6. Scoreboards
7. Irrigation

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

Summary of comments from the public forums held at Hampton High, Kecoughtan High and Northampton Community Center:

- Maintain current facilities before building new ones
- Need more programs -- preschool through teens
- Need more lighted fields for youth and adult sports
- Be more proactive in maintaining athletic fields and equipment
- Acquisition of additional park and recreational areas
- Need more regulation size soccer fields
- Need more stand alone athletic facilities, multi-purpose fields
- Develop minimum maintenance standards for athletic field maintenance
- More bikeways
- Access to Newmarket Creek
- Develop Grandview to allow public access and also protection of environment
- Provide better night tie security at facilities, i.e. lighting
- Olympic size pool
- Better coordination between city and schools for use of school facilities
- More city sponsored athletic programs
- Improve existing programs and services advertising
- Need more active parks
- Speed up conversion of school grounds into neighborhood parks
- Need roller blade facility
- Existing facilities like Sandy Bottom Nature Park and the Carousel are great
- Redevelop existing parks to make more useable

Summary of comments from the Adult Focus Group:

- Develop more programs for adults age 20-47
- Provide more diverse programs
- Sliding fee scale for seniors
- Better publicity of programs and cultural opportunities
- More pools and adult centers centrally located

Summary of comments from the Athletic Facilities Focus Group:

- Teen Club
- Indoor ice skating facility
- Scheduling problems with use of high school gymnasiums between schools and recreation programs
- Security
- Maintenance
- Pool Facility - multi-use
- Need more community centers and multi-purpose centers
- Multi-field facility for soccer, football, softball
- Lighted ball fields and parking lots

Summary of comments from the Facilities Maintenance Focus Group:

- Upgrade and maintain existing facilities before constructing new ones
- Need to invest money more proactively to prevent crime (especially juvenile)
- Follow-through to solve problems
- Be flexible to meet changing public interest
- Air conditioning needed at middle and high school gymnasiums
- Maintenance program is needed - too much dependence on volunteers
- Darling Stadium an example of good maintenance
- Utilize park rangers to patrol recreational facilities for better security
- Athletic fields need lighting for better utilization

Summary of comments from the Open Space Focus Group:

- Provide access to Newmarket Creek
- Protect and utilize natural resources - beaches, waterfront, waterways
- Develop green areas in business districts
- Utilize elementary schools as neighborhood parks
- Better utilization at middle school indoor and outdoor facilities
- Develop bikeway, and trail system
- Acquire land for future open space and passive recreation areas

Summary of comments from the Pre-School Focus Group:

- Bluebird Gap Farm / Carousel are quality facilities
- Pre-school and after school programs
- More age-appropriate equipment
- Nursery / daycare in community centers
- Pre-school classes (similar to youth and teens)
- Parenting classes
- Indoor play areas
- Children's Museum
- Transportation

Summary of comments from the Use of School Facilities Focus Group:

- Better utilization of resources - TNCC, PMI
- Schools are receptive to joint use of outdoor facilities
- Neighborhood based partnerships - schools, YMCA, colleges, churches, military
- Parks and Recreation staff should maintain high school ball fields
- Youth involvement in planning
- More programs for females
- Develop neighborhood parks at all elementary schools

Summary of comments from the Senior Citizen Focus Group:

- Program placement - transportation, more centers, more outreach
- Partnerships
- Broader variety of programs
- Better, more efficient publicity
- Mail brochures to households

Summary of comments from the Teen Focus Group:

- Teen Club
- Recreation centers - a few very large centers with pools and computer access
- Youth / Adult partnerships
- More neighborhood activities
- Better communication of activities
- More diverse activities
- Bus / shuttle service to teen programs
- Mentoring / tutoring (high school and college age)
- Need roller blade facility to minimize damage to tennis courts

USERS AND GROUPS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MASTER PLANNING PROCESS

Associations:

- Northampton Little League
- Phillips Athletic Association – Soccer, Basketball, Baseball
- Virginia District #7 Little League Baseball
- Northampton Civic Association
- Amateur Athletic Union (AAU)
- United States Tennis Association
- Achievable Dream-Hampton
- City Youth Athletic Associations -- Basketball, Football, Wrestling, Baseball, Softball
- City Adult Athletics – Basketball and Softball

USER GROUPS REPRESENTED

- BMX – Bicycling
- Cycling and Trails
- Jogging and Walking
- Pre-school Program Parents
- Instructional Class Participants
- Senior Citizens Center Users

FOCUS GROUPS

- Adults
- Athletic Facilities
- Facilities Maintenance
- Open Space
- Pre-School
- Use of School Facilities
- Seniors
- Teens

SCHOOLS

- High School Athletics – Swimming, Basketball, Baseball, Football, Track and Field, Wrestling, Field Hockey, Soccer
- Peninsula Catholic High School
- Virginia Special Olympics
- Fox Hill Private School
- Hampton University
- Thomas Nelson Community College
- Christopher Newport University

OTHER

- Business – DVF Sports
- Peninsula YMCA
- Sentara Health and Fitness
- Sports Authority
- Alternatives, Inc.
- Peninsula Marine Institute
- Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board

OTHER RESOURCES

- Hampton's 2010 Comprehensive Plan
- Youth Component to the 2010 Comprehensive Plan
- Hampton's Strategic Plan
- Downtown Hampton Development Plan
- Coliseum Central Plan
- Neighborhood Plans
 - ⇒ Aberdeen
 - ⇒ Wythe
 - ⇒ Newtown
 - ⇒ Buckroe
 - ⇒ Fox Hill
- Beachfront Master Plan
- Sandy Bottom Master Plan
- Hampton's Athletic and Facility Assessment
- Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines (National Recreation and Park Association)
- Virginia Outdoors Plan - 1996 (Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation)